GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:695
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
REPLACEMENT OF OLD AIRCRAFT
Mollah Shri Hannan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the old Aircraft in Air India are facing accident occasionally;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents; and

(c) the time by which those aircraft are proposed to be replaced and how?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b) and (c): No, Sir. However, as the aircraft get older, some snags develop on the components and structural members of the aircraft due to wear and tear and the cyclic load subjected on them. From time to time, the manufacturers prescribe maintenance requirements for each type of aircraft. DGCA ensures that the operators strictly follow the manufacturers instructions for maintenance of their aircraft. Thus, every aircraft of Air India is maintained as per manufacturers instructions and is considered airworthy and safe for operations.

For modernization of its fleet, Air India is in the process of inducting new aircraft in their fleet and has signed a purchase agreement with M/s Boeing for purchase of 68 aircraft. The above fleet expansion programme envisages induction of aircraft in a phased manner by 2011 and also for phasing out of some of their older aircraft.